

## Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION OECD PARIS PRIORITY

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FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ENDERS

FOLLOWING REPEAT MTN GENEVA 7803 ACTION SECSTATE INFO  
EC BRUSSELS 14 OCT 75

QUOTE

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PASS STR AND USDA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, MTN

SUBJECT: MTN: STATUS REPORT ON EFFORTS TO RESOLVE AGRICULTURAL  
IMPASSE

1. LUYTEN MET YESTERDAY IN BRUSSELS WITH SOAMES, GUNDELACK,  
HIJZEN AND RABOT. IN MEETING THIS MORNING WITH AMBASSADOR  
WALKER HE COMMUNICATED FOLLOWING PROPOSAL FOR RESOLVING  
IMPASSE ON WORK PROGRAM FOR GROUP AGRICULTURE.

2. THE FOLLOWING THREE ELEMENTS WOULD BE CONTAINED IN THE  
CHAPEAU APPLICABLE TO ALL ELEMENTS OF AGREED GROUP AGRI-  
CULTURE WORK PROGRAM.

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(A) LANGUAGE COMMITTING GROUP AGRICULTURE AND ITS

SUBGROUPS TO COMMUNICATE REPORTS ON ITS WORK TO OTHER GROUPS ON A REGULAR, TIMELY AND CONTINUOUS BASIS, EXPLICITLY RECOGNIZING THE OBLIGATION TO COMMUNICATE SUCH REPORTS AFTER EACH WORKING SESSION.

(B) LANGUAGE ON THE PURPOSE OF THE REPORTS COMMUNICATED BY GROUP AGRICULTURE TO OTHER GROUPS PHRASED IN TERMS OF THE MAY 8 COMPROMISE, I.E., COMMUNICATION "WITH A VIEW TO ARRIVING AT THE HARMONIOUS AND BALANCED DEVELOPMENT OF ALL THE ELEMENTS SUBJECT TO NEGOTIATION IN FURTHERANCE IN PARAGRAPH 8 OF THE TOKYO DECLARATION." THIS LANGUAGE IN LIEU OF OUR PROPOSAL TO REQUIRE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THAT WORK OF GROUP AGRICULTURE WOULD BE "INCORPORATED INTO" WORK OF OTHER GROUPS LEADING TO GLOBAL SOLUTIONS.

(C) LANGUAGE EXPLICITLY ACKNOWLEDGING THE POSSIBILITY OF JOINT MEETINGS, BUT ONLY AT THE DIRECTION OF THE TNC. IN OTHER WORDS, DISPUTES BETWEEN GROUP AGRICULTURE AND OTHER GROUPS WOULD NOT BE TAKEN UP AT THAT LEVEL, BUT WOULD RATHER BE ESCALATED TO TNC FOR "POLITICAL LEVEL" RESOLUTION WHICH MIGHT INCLUDE A DIRECTION FOR GROUPS TO MEET JOINTLY. FYI. WE WOULD EXPECT EC TO OPPOSE ANY PROPOSAL FOR JOINT MEETINGS SUBMITTED TO TNC. END FYI.

3. A FOUR-STEP PROCEDURE FOR HANDLING ALL MEASURES AFFECTING "OTHER AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS". STEP 1: A NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE, STEP 2: BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS BASED ON THOSE NOTIFICATIONS WITH RPT WITH AN OBLIGATION TO REPORT THE RESULTS OF SUCH CONSULTATIONS TO OTHER AFFECTED GROUPS, STEP 3: A STUDY BY SECRETARIAT ON FEASIBILITY OF ALTERNATIVE NEGOTIATING APPROACHES, STEP 4: A DECISION BY GROUP AGRICULTURE ON WHETHER SUBSEQUENT NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT ON A MULTILATERAL OR ON A BILATERAL/PLURILATERAL BASIS. BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS ON "OTHER AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT" WRS WHICH HAVE ALREADY OCCURRED WOULD BE DEEMED ANTICIPATORY TO THIS PROCEDURE AND THOSE WHICH FOLLOW ITS ADOPTION WOULD SUBSUMED IN THIS PROCEDURE. FYI. THIS IS THE FOUR-STEP PROCEDURE WHICH THE COMMUNITY ADVANCED IN MEETING AT MTN OFFICE ON SEPTEMBER 25 WITH MODIFICATION THAT THEY NOW ACCEPT THE OBLIGATION, WHICH THEY PREVIOUSLY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OPPOSED, TO REPORT TO OTHER GROUPS AT THE STAGE WHEN THE BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS TAKE PLACE. THIS AMOUNTS TO E.C. ADOPTION U.S. APPROACH. END FYI.

4. LANGUAGE WHICH WOULD OBLIGATE SUBGROUPS TO REPORT THE RESULTS OF CURRENT MULTILATERAL DISCUSSIONS ON MEAT, DAIRY AND GRAIN PRODUCTS TO THE OTHER GROUPS. AMBASSADOR WALKER IMMEDIATELY REJECTED THIS PROPOSAL OUT OF HAND AND REPEATED

PREVIOUS U.S. OFFER THAT BILATERALS ON THESE THREE AREAS MAY BE CONDUCTED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE SUBGROUPS WITH THE RESULTS OF THE BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS SO CONDUCTED COMMUNICATED TO THE APPROPRIATE SUBGROUP, GROUP AGRICULTURE AND QR SUBGROUPS. LUYTEN AGREED TO RECONSIDER THIS AND TO SEEK INSTRUCTIONS FROM BRUSSELS.

5. STANDARDS AND TARIFF ELEMENTS OF WORK PROGRAM PER LAST U.S. PROPOSALS.

6. COMMENTS: PROPOSAL CALLS FOR U.S. CONCESSIONS ON (A) ESCALATION TO TNC AND (B) TEMPORARY ABANDONMENT OF "INCORPORATION INTO" OBJECTIVE. IT CALLS FOR COMPROMISE BY EC ON (A) EXPLICIT RECOGNITION OF OBLIGATION TO REPORT AFTER EACH MEETING AND (B) QR ISSUES AFFECTING BOTH "OTHER" PRODUCTS AND THREE SYBGROUPS PRODUCTS (ASSUMING EC ACCEPTS U.S. PROPOSAL IN PARAGRAPH 4).

(A) DEFERRAL BY U.S. OF "INCORPORATION INTO" CONCEPT AND SUBSTITUTION THEREFOR OF MAY 8 FORMULATION PUTS OFF UNTIL LATER ULTIMATE CONFRONTATION WITH EC ON TREATING AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRY SEPARATELY OR AS UNITARY NEGOTIATION, BUT PERMITS EACH SIDE TO MAINTAIN ITS POSITION IN THE INTERIM. IT IS THUS A FURTHER PAPERING-OVER AND SHOULD BE ACKNOWLEDGED AS SUCH. BASIC QUESTION, THEN, IS WHETHER OR NOT TO TAKE ON THIS ISSUE NOW IN THE PROCEDURAL CONTEXT OR WHETHER TO DEFER IT TO A SUBSTANTIVE CONTEXT.

(B) LOGIC OF EC POSITION ON ESCALATION TO TNC OF DIFFERENCES BETWEEN GROUPS HAS SOME MERIT, PUTTING ASIDE TACTICAL ISSUES FOR PURPOSE OF ANALYSIS. THAT IS TO SAY, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THE U.S. WOULD TAKE DIFFERENT POSITIONS IN, SAY, THE STANDARDS SUBGROUP AND GROUP AGRICULTURE UNLESS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WE INTENDED TO DO SO. THE SAME APPLIES TO THE EC. WHERE POSITIONS IN THE TWO GROUPS ARE INTENTIONALLY DIFFERENT, HOWEVER, A JOINT MEETING WOULD BE UNLIKELY TO PRODUCE A RESOLUTION OF THE ISSUE. ALTERNATIVELY, EC MOST UNLIKELY TO AGREE TO TNC INSTRUCTION TO DIFFERING GROUPS TO MEET JOINTLY. THEREFORE, ADOPTION OF THEIR PROPOSAL WOULD LEAD TO FURTHER PROCEDURAL CONFRONTATION AT A LATER DATE. CONSEQUENTLY, FOUR ALTERNATIVES SUGGEST THEMSELVES.

(1) CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR JOINT MEETINGS BEFORE ESCALATION TO TNC (UNLIKELY TO SUCCEED),

(2) ACCEPTANCE OF EC PROPOSAL (WE GET NO ADVANTAGE FROM THIS),

(3) ACCEPT EC PROPOSAL WITH QUALIFYING LANGUAGE DRAWN FROM TOKYO DECLARATION REFERRING TO OVERALL MANAGEMENT OF TNC AND TREATMENT OF AGRICULTURE BY TNC IN THAT PROCESS IN LINE WITH THE GENERAL OBJECTIVES OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, BUT TAKING ACCOUNT OF THE SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS AND PROBLEMS IN THIS SECTOR (THIS QUALIFYING LANGUAGE WOULD SIMPLY BE A PUBLIC RELATIONS GESTURE AND OF DUBIOUS VALUE),

(4) OMIT ANY MENTION OF WHAT TO DO IN THE EVENT THE GROUPS DIFFER (THIS WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH THE PAPERING-OVER OF ULTIMATE ISSUE AND DEFER ISSUES OF WHETHER AND WHEN JOINT GRUPS SHOULD BE CONVENED).

(C) SELLING THIS APPROACH DOMESTICALLY WOULD REQUIRE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO PRIVATE AGRICULTURAL AND CONGRESSIONAL INTERESTS THAT WE VIEW THIS AS NOTHING MORE THAN A FURTHER PAPERING-OVER OF THE BASIS DISAGREEMENT WITH THE ADDED ADVANTAGE OF STRENGTHENING THE LINKAGE BETWEEN GROUP AGRICULTURE ACTIVITIES AND FUNCTIONAL GROUP ACTIVITIES THROUGH EXPLICIT OBLIGATION TO COMMUNICATE. FURTHER ADVANTAGE IS THAT IT WOULD ENABLE U.S. TO ARTICULATE ITS OBJECTIVES IN LIBERALIZING AGRICULTURAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TRADE AND PUT ONUS ON EC FOR REFUSING TO NEGOTIATE. THUS, WHEN ULTIMATE CONFRONTATION MUST BE FACED, IT CAN BE ON GENUINE SUBSTANTIVE ISSUE (WHERE WE HAVE MERITORIOUS CASE) RATHER THAN ON ABSTRACT PRINCIPLE OF PROCEDURE WHERE OBSCURITY OF ISSUES MAKES IT DIFFICULT TO MARSHAL PUBLIC SUPPORT.

6. MTN DEL WOULD APPRECIATE IMMEDIATE GUIDANCE BEFORE NOON GENEVA TIME WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15 TO CONDUCT FURTHER DISCUSSIONS IN ADVANCE OF US/EC MEETINGS IN BRUSSELS ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17. WALKER UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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